

Message Text

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71-60

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DRAFTED BY ARA/BC:RVFIMBRES/WLOWENTHAL;RSDRISCOLL:BJD

APPROVED BY ARA:HARYAN

ARA:GLISTER (DRAFT)

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TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: UNGA, SHUM, CI

SUBJECT: REPLY TO GOC NOTE ON U.S. VOTE ON CHILEAN HUMAN
RIGHTS RESOLUTION

REFS: (A) SANTIAGO 7681; (B) GARMENT STATEMENT DTD
11/12/75; (C) STATE 269075; (D) USUN 6011

1. RECOMMEND REPLY TO GOC THIRD PERSON NOTE CITED REF. A
ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

2. QUOTE: THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES PRESENTS ITS
COMPLIMENTS TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND HAS THE
HONOR TO REFER TO THE MINISTRY'S NOTE OF NOVEMBER 13,
1975 ON THE VOTE CAST BY THE U.S. DELEGATION IN THE THIRD
COMMITTEE OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONCERNING HUMAN
RIGHTS IN CHILE.

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OVER THE YEARS, CHILE HAS PLAYED AN IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL

ROLE IN SUPPORT OF EFFORTS TO PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND HAS HAD A LONG TRADITION OF OBSERVING INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS INTERNALLY. IT IS IN LARGE PART FOR THESE REASONS THAT CURRENT ALLEGATIONS REGARDING THE OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE ARE THE SUBJECT OF INTEREST AND CONCERN IN THE UNITED STATES TODAY.

THE POSITION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES ON THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IS WELL KNOWN TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE. THEREFORE, THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN SURPRISED AT THE DECISION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO VOTE FOR THE RESOLUTION. THE UNITED STATES VOTE WAS THE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED RESULT OF GOVERNMENT-WIDE DISCUSSIONS. IT REFLECTED THE DEEP CONCERN OF BROAD SECTORS OF THE UNITED STATES PUBLIC WHICH FOCUS ON THE ISSUE. THE MOST IMMEDIATE MANIFESTATION OF THIS CONCERN IS INSISTENCE THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT STRONGLY SUPPORT THOSE INTERNATIONAL ACTIONS INTENDED TO PROMOTE INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS EVERYWHERE, INCLUDING CHILE.

IN CASTING HIS VOTE, THE UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE HAD IN MIND CHILE'S TRADITIONAL ADHERENCE TO INTERNATIONAL MEASURES SANCTIFYING THE DIGNITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL. THE UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE EXPLAINED THE U.S. DECISION AS A VOTE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND IN SUPPORT OF THE PURPOSE ASSIGNED TO THE UNITED NATIONS UNDER ITS CHARTER. THE UNITED STATES POSITION WAS A RESPONSE TO REPORTS WHICH CONTINUE TO COME TO THE UNITED NATIONS FROM CREDIBLE SOURCES ABOUT VIOLATIONS OF BASIC RIGHTS IN CHILE. WHILE THERE ARE ASPECTS OF THE RESOLUTION WITH WHICH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT DOES NOT AGREE, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT BELIEVED THAT AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE IT WAS MORE IMPORTANT TO SUPPORT THE OBJECTIVE OF HAVING THE UNITED NATIONS ENERGETICALLY ADDRESS THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE WHENEVER IT ARISES. THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE IS CERTAINLY AWARE THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT CHILE SHOULD BE SINGLED OUT FOR SPECIAL ATTENTION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THAT INDEED THERE ARE OTHER COUNTRIES ON WHICH SUCH ATTENTION MIGHT PROPERLY BE FOCUSED.

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THIS CONVICTION WAS DEMONSTRATED BY THE INTRODUCTION BY THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVE OF A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AMNESTY FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS.

THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WISHES TO REPEAT ITS DESIRE TO MAINTAIN FRUITFUL AND CORDIAL RELATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE AND EXPRESSES THE HOPE THAT IT WILL SOON TAKE POSITIVE ACTION TO ALLOW INTER-

NATIONAL VERIFICATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES IN CHILE
AND THEREBY REASSURE THE WORLD OF CHILE'S FUNDAMENTAL
ADHERENCE TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES IT HELPED
ESTABLISH. END QUOTE. KISSINGER

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